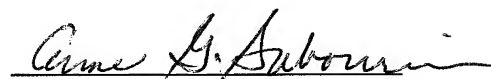


## REMARKS

Upon entry of the preliminary amendment, claims 1–17 are pending in the applicaton. The claims have been amended to comport with U.S. Patent Office regulations. Examination of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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